


Combined Districts of  
**BATHAVON, KEYNSHAM,  
FROME (Urban and Rural)**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**Medical Officer of Health**  
  
for the Year  
**1961**

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# INDEX

## GENERAL

	Page
Deaths of Infants under one year of age, all areas ...	7
Diphtheria Immunisation ... ..	6
Dysentery ... ..	6
Erysipelas ... ..	5
Food Poisoning ... ..	6
Mass Radiography Service ... ..	5
Measles ... ..	5
Pneumonia ... ..	5
Poliomyelitis ... ..	6
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	6
Scarlet Fever ... ..	5
Statistical Table ... ..	7
Tuberculosis ... ..	5
Whooping Cough ... ..	5

## BATHAVON

Births and still births ... ..	10
Deaths ... ..	11
Deaths under 1 year of age ... ..	10
Extracts from vital statistics ... ..	10
Factories Acts 1937-1959 ... ..	17
Notifiable diseases ... ..	12
Report of the Public Health Inspector ... ..	12

## KEYNSHAM

Births and still births ... ..	20
Day Nursery ... ..	24
Deaths ... ..	21
Deaths under 1 year of age ... ..	20
Extracts from vital statistics ... ..	20
Factories Acts 1937-1959 ... ..	29
Health Centre ... ..	23
Notifiable diseases ... ..	22
Report of the Public Health Inspector ... ..	25
Salford Welfare Centre ... ..	23
Welfare Centre ... ..	23

## FROME URBAN

Births and still births ... ..	32
Deaths ... ..	33
Deaths under 1 year of age ... ..	32
Extracts from vital statistics ... ..	32
Factories Acts 1937-1959 ... ..	40
Notifiable diseases ... ..	34
Report of the Public Health Inspector ... ..	36
Welfare Centre ... ..	34

## FROME RURAL

Births and still births ... ..	43
Deaths ... ..	44
Deaths under 1 year of age ... ..	43
Extracts from vital statistics ... ..	43
Factories Acts 1937-1959 ... ..	51
Notifiable diseases ... ..	45
Report of the Public Health Inspector ... ..	45

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
8 CLEVELAND PLACE EAST,  
BATH.

*To the Chairmen and Members of the  
Bathavon, Keynsham, Frome Urban and  
Frome Rural District Councils.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Infectious disease notifications were in considerable excess of last year's figures, chiefly because of the increased incidence of whooping cough and measles, the latter of which reached epidemic force for most of the year. The rest of the infections showed, in most cases, a reduction on last year's figures. A disturbing feature was the return of poliomyelitis after two year's complete absence. Fortunately, the four cases were contained in one part of a district and no spread followed to any other part of the area. More pleasing to report is the fact that no notification of any form of food poisoning was received during the year.

The birth rate was slightly up on last year's figure and the death rate also showed a slight increase but was well below the national rate. The infantile mortality rate fell still further to 15.29 which is 6.11 below that for England and Wales.

As this report, the 23rd, is the last which I shall be required to submit to my constituent authorities it would seem proper for me to record my sincere thanks for the many kindnesses which have been shown to me in innumerable ways by successions of individual council members and colleagues. I should also like to take this opportunity to thank those of my professional colleagues both in the preventive and in the curative fields of medicine who have given me much friendly and helpful co-operation over the years.

Much change can take place in nearly a quarter of a century and it is interesting to note a few of the many that have influenced the health record of the combined area since the early years of its inception in 1939. In the year 1940 for instance, sixty-one cases of diphtheria were notified of which two were fatal. Following an intensive immunisation campaign the numbers gradually diminished until 1947 when not a single notification was received during the year. Since then the area has been completely free from diphtheria. A grim reminder of how deadly this disease could be was contained in my first Annual Report in 1939: "Diphtheria comes seventh in the list of killing diseases and is the chief cause of death between the ages of two and four years."

The more recent immunisation campaign against poliomyelitis appears to have produced similar results as no case was reported

during the years 1959 and 1960. It is early yet to judge how lasting this success is likely to be but it is sufficiently definite, I think, to justify a considerable degree of confidence for the future.

Although scarlet fever had already lost most of its severity before the war years one still saw cases with at least some of its characteristic features. Nowadays it is rare to see much more than an evanescent rash accompanied by some degree of tonsillitis, and the serious complications which used to be met with are even more rare.

The antibiotic drugs have been responsible for a considerable reduction in many of the infectious diseases such as pneumonia, puerperal fever, and the various forms of meningitis, and they have been responsible also for almost eliminating the complications that were formerly the all too frequent sequelae of such diseases as measles and whooping cough.

The effective protection that was available in 1939 in the case of smallpox is now obtainable for diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, tuberculosis and poliomyelitis, and may be used in the none too distant future to combat measles and even influenza.

One has seen a great deal achieved during this period by the constituent authorities regarding all the other services associated with the health of the area. Housing, which was perhaps the most urgent problem that had to be faced, has been dealt with effectively and the so called "problem family" is no longer the constant menace it used to be. Much has been done in recent years to provide suitable housing accommodation for the ever increasing number of old people in the area. The authorities concerned are to be congratulated on the results they have obtained and they will not, I am sure, be content to rest on their laurels.

*Yours faithfully,*

R. H. G. H. DENHAM.



# INFECTIOUS DISEASES

## SCARLET FEVER

Only eleven cases of scarlet fever were notified compared with fifty-five for the previous year. These were all mild home-nursed cases.

## MEASLES

An epidemic year produced 1,339 cases of which one was removed to hospital. The 1960 total was 114.

## WHOOPING COUGH

Notifications of whooping cough rose from twenty-nine to ninety-nine, two of the cases were removed to hospital, one of which died. Deaths from this disease are, fortunately, very rare nowadays and the last to occur, also a single case, was as far back as the year 1947.

## PNEUMONIA

Last year's reduced figure of nineteen (four influenzal) was increased to twenty-eight (ten influenzal) six of which were removed to hospital. Four of the primary cases and two of the ten influenzal cases were fatal.

## ERYSIPELAS

Three notifications of this disease were received compared with four for the previous year. Two of these were removed to hospital.

## TUBERCULOSIS

Thirty-five cases of tuberculosis (thirty-three pulmonary and two non-pulmonary) were notified during the year. This represented an appreciable reduction on last year's figure of forty-five (thirty-eight pulmonary and seven non-pulmonary).

The B.C.G. vaccination of school leaving children was completed again during the first quarter of the year. The parents continued to show commendable eagerness to avail themselves of this service.

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

Units of the Mass Radiography Service of the South West Regional Hospital Board visited the area during the year as follows:

November 23rd, 1961    Red Post Inn, Peasedown St. John  
December 14th, 1961    Keynsham Hospital

Attendances were:

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Red Post Inn	67	74	141
Keynsham Hospital	27	63	90

## **FOOD POISONING**

No case of food poisoning was reported during the year. Three notifications were received last year.

## **SONNE DYSENTERY**

Two cases of sonne dysentery were notified compared with nineteen for the previous year.

## **PUERPERAL PYREXIA**

Three notifications of puerperal pyrexia were received during the year. Two of these were from the same hospital within a week or so of each other and probably the result of the same source of infection. This is a salutary reminder of the need to take immediate steps to investigate and eradicate such sources of infection in hospital whenever a case of puerperal infection is discovered.

## **DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION**

There was no slackening of enthusiasm on the part of parents to have their children immunised against diphtheria during the year and the number of five year olds who had the boosting injection remained at a very satisfactory level.

## **MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION**

One notification of meningococcal infection was received following a negative return last year.

## **POLIOMYELITIS**

For the first year since the vaccination scheme against the disease was inaugurated in 1957, poliomyelitis was reported from one part of the area. Four cases were notified, one of which was fatal. The other three were mild and made complete recoveries. It is sad to reflect that if this fatal case had availed himself of the immunity offered he would no doubt have been alive to-day. This was the first notification received and there was no history of contact with any known case. It seems possible however that the infection was fairly wide spread as cases were reported from neighbouring areas of Wiltshire and that it was only the high immunity rate of the community that prevented the occurrence of many more cases of the disease. It is to be hoped that this unfortunate case will serve as a warning to those who still hesitate to make up their minds to do the sensible thing. Very little effort is required by the individual to enable him to acquire the necessary protection but whatever amount is expended is more than justified by the feeling of security which the possession of the resulting immunity naturally brings.



## DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE ALL AREAS

	<i>Under 1 week</i>	<i>1-4 weeks</i>	<i>1-6 months</i>	<i>6-12 months</i>	<i>Total</i>
Asphyxia ... ..	—	1	1	—	2
Atelectasis ... ..	1	—	—	—	1
Broncho Pneumonia ...	—	—	2	—	2
Cerebral haemorrhage ...	1	—	—	—	1
Congenital heart disease ...	1	1	1	—	3
Meningitis ... ..	—	—	1	1	2
Prematurity ... ..	3	—	—	—	3
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	1	—	—	1
	6	3	5	1	15

### STATISTICAL TABLE

The figures in this Table represent the corrected birth and death rates and the infantile mortality rate for the combined districts for the six years period 1956-1961 with the comparative figures for England and Wales.

		<i>Birth rate</i>	<i>Death rate</i>	<i>Infantile rate</i>
Combined districts	1956	16.83	9.45	18.54
England and Wales	1956	15.7	11.7	23.8
Combined districts	1957	17.72	9.66	11.21
England and Wales	1957	16.1	11.5	23.0
Combined districts	1958	17.95	10.78	25.7
England and Wales	1958	16.4	11.7	22.5
Combined districts	1959	17.07	9.67	22.22
England and Wales	1959	16.5	11.6	22.0
Combined districts	1960	16.61	10.78	17.91
England and Wales	1960	17.1	11.5	21.7
Combined districts	1961	17.13	10.95	15.29
England and Wales	1961	17.4	12.0	21.4

The birth rate showed a .52 increase on last year's figure but for the second year in succession was slightly under the rate for England and Wales.

The death rate again exceeded slightly the previous year's figures but at 10.95 was well below the national figure of 12.

The infantile mortality rate was reduced still further from 17.91 to 15.29 which was 6.11 below that for the rest of the country. The reduction was again in the early neo-natal group and was a manifestation of the high standard of midwifery practice carried out by the general practitioners in the area.

## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948**

### **SECTION 47**

Visits were paid to many parts of the area in response to requests for action under this section of the National Assistance Act 1948. Compulsory removal was not considered to be indicated in any of the cases.

# BATHAVON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

POPULATION ESTIMATED MID-YEAR, 1961	...	...	20,680
AREA OF THE DISTRICT	...	...	39,996 acres
NUMBER OF HOUSES INHABITED ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS, 1961	...	...	6,360
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	...	...	3.18
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE 1961-62	...	£750	
RATEABLE VALUE, APRIL 1961	...	...	£188,533

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*Chairman of the Council* ... MRS. A. RIDDICK, J.P.

*Chairman of the Health and Highway*

*Committee* ... G. H. HYDER, ESQ.

*Senior Public Health Inspector* ... C. C. AXFORD, Cert. S.I.B.,  
M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

*Additional Public Health Inspector* H. C. L. MORRIS, Cert. S.I.B.,  
M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

**Council Offices: 30, Westgate Buildings, Bath.**

*Telephone: Bath 5391/5.*

**Health Department: 8, Cleveland Place East, Bath.**

*Telephone: Bath 60886.*

*Health Department Clerk:* ... MISS BALDWIN

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

### Live Births:

Number	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	333
Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.10
Birth Rate corrected by comparability factor (1.05)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.91
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.71

### Still Births:

Number	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29.15
Total Live and Still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	343
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

### Infant Mortality Rates:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.01
Legitimate „ „ „ legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.74
Illegitimate „ „ „ illegitimate „ „	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.01
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.00
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34.99

### Maternal Mortality (including abortion):

Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
General death rate per 1,000 estimated average population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.93
General death rate corrected by comparability factor (0.90)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.84

## DEATHS

The number of deaths, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 226, 117 male and 109 female. The following Table indicates the cause of death:—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	1	—	1
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	1	1
Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm stomach ... ..	3	2	5
"    "    lung, bronchus ... ..	11	1	12
"    "    breast ... ..	—	3	3
"    "    uterus ... ..	—	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	15	25
Leukæmia, aleukæmia ... ..	2	1	3
Diabetes ... ..	—	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	12	19	31
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	17	10	27
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	4	1	5
Other heart disease ... ..	13	19	32
Other circulatory disease ... ..	6	6	12
Influenza ... ..	2	3	5
Pneumonia ... ..	4	10	14
Bronchitis ... ..	10	1	11
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	5	1	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	2	—	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	2	—	2
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ... ..	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	6	12	18
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	2	—	2
All other accidents ... ..	2	—	2
Suicide ... ..	1	2	3
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—	—
	117	109	226

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total cases notified</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Measles ... ..	512	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	5	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	—
Meningococcal infection ... ..	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	2	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	19	—
Acute primary pneumonia ... ..	10	1
Acute Influenzal pneumonia ... ..	8	2
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	2	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—
Tuberculosis: (respiratory) ... ..	8	1
(non-respiratory) ... ..	2	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
Membranous croup ... ..	—	—
Enteric and paratyphoid fever ... ..	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—
Acute encephalitis ... ..	—	—
Typhus ... ..	—	—
Typhoid fever ... ..	—	—
Small Pox ... ..	—	—
Cholera ... ..	—	—
Malaria ... ..	—	—
Plague ... ..	—	—
	569	4

# REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

## WATER SUPPLIES

Negotiations have continued during the year with the Bristol Waterworks Company with a view to this Company taking over the only remaining area at present supplied by this Authority and it is hoped that final arrangements will be made during 1962.

The amount of water available in the summer and autumn supplied from the Combe Hay source to seven parishes was insufficient to maintain an uninterrupted supply and negotiations were commenced with the Bristol Waterworks Company for a bulk supply to augment the Combe Hay source during 1962.

The standard of purity of all public supplies was excellent.

No difficulties were experienced with the private sources supplying the Parishes of Kelston and Claverton. An extension of public mains was carried out by Bristol Waterworks Company to serve properties situated at Corston.



### Water Distribution:

Number of Parishes supplied from public mains	...	...	24
" " " " " private estate sources			2
" " Houses having a piped supply	...	...	6,248
" " " served by standpipe	...	...	120
" " " relying on wells	...	...	74
" " " " spring supplies	...	...	61

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The maintenance of sewers and sewage disposal works gave little cause for concern throughout the year with the exception of the disposal works at Peasedown and Wellow.

The Wellow works are worn out and inadequate and a scheme is being prepared for their replacement.

At Peasedown the sludge drying beds are inadequate and extension to these beds is in hand.

The work of sewerage the villages of Corston and Newton St. Loe continued and no difficulties in connection therewith were experienced.

The recently completed works for the village of Freshford are operating well and the final effluent was at all times satisfactory.

Certain difficulties were experienced with excess surface water in parts of the sewer system in the Combe Down ward of Monkton Combe parish and the Council's consulting engineers are investigating this matter.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

The refuse collection service continued without major difficulties.

A new partially controlled tip was brought into operation at Radford and is helping with the problem of disposal but the provision of suitable sites in other parts of the district is causing some concern.

The collection scheme continued to be carried out by direct labour and a weekly collection was operated in all parts of the district.

## HOUSING

Number of dwelling houses in the district	...	...	...	6,503
"    "    "    owned by the Council	...	...	...	1,105
"    temporary dwellings (prefabs.)	...	...	...	98
(huts, etc.)				Nil
"    houses listed as unfit for habitation and for				
action individually or by Clearance Orders				32
"    houses demolished or closed under Housing				
Act	...	...	...	7
"    houses made fit by Owners	...	...	...	12
"    "    erected by Council	...	...	...	8
"    "    "    Private Enterprise	...	...	...	80
"    "    gained from conversions by Private Enterprise				6
"    applicants for Council Houses at end of year				327

## **Improvement Grants made under the Housing Act 1949-1954:**

### **Discretionary:**

Applications approved	...	38	(30 in respect of owner/occupiers)
„ rejected	...	2	
Average cost per dwelling approved	...	...	£275
Amount of grant payable by Local Authority	...	...	£2,680

### **Standard:**

Applications received and approved	...	...	...	35
------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

### **Rent Act, 1957:**

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received.

## **FOODS**

### **Meat and Other Foods:**

There are no slaughter houses or bacon factories in use at the present time. During visits to shops, cafes and canteens the following foods were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption:

14 Tins of Meat Products	28 Tins of Vegetables
98 Tins of Fruit	11 Tins of Fish

There are no poultry packing establishments in use.

### **Ice-Cream:**

There are seventy-four registrations for the retailing of ice-cream. In each case it is pre-packed and supplied by the well known manufacturers.

Check samples submitted for analysis were reported as being in the Top Grade.

### **Food Hygiene Regulations 1955:**

There are 116 premises which are controlled by these regulations, with thirty-eight registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

During visits it was found necessary to issue 4 informal notices which were complied with.

Personal hygiene remains the most likely source of danger and a short visit by the inspector does much to remind personnel of this danger.

## **CLEAN AIR ACT 1956**

The byelaw made under Section 24 of this Act and Section 61 of the Public Health Act 1936 in respect of the provision of appliances designed for burning smokeless fuels in new buildings was complied with and no action was necessary.

## CARAVANS

During the year the Council were greatly concerned as to the need for carrying out their obligations under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960. Detailed surveys were made of all sites and individual caravans before granting licences based upon the model of standard conditions issued by the Ministry. Public enquiries were held in connection with three of the larger sites resulting in "run down" orders being made over the next five years. Observations in connection with these and with the subsequent licensing thereof continue to take up much of the time of the department.

## RODENT CONTROL

The Rodent Operator continued on a full-time basis. When dealing with individual complaints the operator carries out investigations into adjoining areas and where possible deals with separate pockets of infestation with the object of minimising the possibility of any further spread over a wide area.

Due to the latest preservatives it is now possible to lay baits and poisons in natural harbourages over long periods. This considerably helps to reduce to a minimum the number of rats in residential areas.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture a complete treatment of the public sewers was carried out. The degree of infestation was surprisingly low. A contract service is still operated for the larger business concerns and for agricultural premises and lands.

## VARIOUS

### Closet Accommodation

Number of water closets in area	...	...	...	7,600 (Approx.)
„ pail closets	„	...	...	1,050
„ chemical closets	„	...	...	270
„ conversions to water closets during year				39

### Nuisances

Enquiries and visits in connection with various nuisances	...	109
Nuisances remedied following formal and informal action		39

### Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Enquiries and visits in connection with cases of infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	32
Disinfections carried out	...	...	...	...	...	15
Disinfestations carried out	...	...	...	...	...	11

### Disease of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957.

There are sixteen licence holders under the above Order who have sterilization plants consisting of five of the steam injection type, four pressure cookers and seven coppers. All the plants were kept

in working order and each licensee complied with the requirements of the Order. Two informal notices concerning repairs to flooring near boiling plants were complied with.

**Rag Flock and Other Materials Act 1957:**

There is one Rag Flock manufacturer licensed under the Act. Except for one isolated instance, which was beyond the Licensee's control, all samples of the products were reported as being of a high standard of purity.

There is one Knacker's Yard in operation. No action has been necessary either with regard to cruelty or management during the year.

There are no public swimming pools and no pet shops in the area.

## APPENDIX

### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937-1959

#### Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

#### PART I OF THE ACT

#### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>  (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	30	29	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	10	11	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	5	1	—
TOTAL: ...	43	45	1	—

#### 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:—

<i>Particulars</i>  (1)	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i> (6)
	<i>Found</i> (2)	<i>Remedied</i> (3)	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i> (4)	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i> (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	2	2	—	2	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	2	2	—	2	—

<i>Particulars</i>  (1)	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i> (6)
	<i>Found</i> (2)	<i>Remedied</i> (3)	<i>To H.M. Inspector</i> (4)	<i>Referred By H.M. Inspector</i> (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL: ...	6	6	—	5	—

## PART VIII OF THE ACT

### OUTWORK

(SECTIONS 110 AND 111)

<i>Nature of Work</i>  (1)	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)</i> (2)	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i> (3)	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i> (4)	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i> (5)	<i>Notices served</i> (6)	<i>Prosecutions</i> (7)
Wearing apparel } Making etc. ...	8	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL: ...	8	—	—	—	—	—



**KEYNSHAM    URBAN    DISTRICT    COUNCIL**

POPULATION ESTIMATED MID-YEAR, 1961	...	...	15,144
AREA OF THE DISTRICT	...	...	4,170 acres
NUMBER OF HOUSES INHABITED ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS	...	...	4,714
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	...	...	3.21
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	...	...	£966
RATEABLE VALUE	...	...	£238,754

*Chairman of the Council* ... L. F. ELLIS ESQ., J.P.

*Chairman of the Health Committee* D. F. STRAFFORD, ESQ.,

*Public Health Inspector* ... D. F. G. LOCKYEAR, M.R.S.H.,  
M.A.P.H.I.

**Council Offices: Keynsham.**

*Telephone:* Keynsham 2345/8.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

### Live Births:

Number	...	...	...	...	...	...	278
Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.36
Birth Rate corrected by comparability factor (0.87)	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.97
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.16

### Still Births:

Number	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.67
Total Live and Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	283
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

### Infant Mortality Rates:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.19
Legitimate „ „ „ legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.35
Illegitimate „ „ „ illegitimate „ „	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.67
Maternal Mortality rate (including abortion):							
Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
General death rate per 1,000 estimated average population	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.70
General death rate corrected by comparability factor (1.06)	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.34

## DEATHS

The number of deaths, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 162, seventy male and ninety-two female. The following Table indicates the cause of death:—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	1	1
Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping cough ... ..	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	1	1	2
"    "    lung bronchus ... ..	4	—	4
"    "    breast ... ..	—	5	5
"    "    uterus ... ..	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	8	9	17
Leukæmia, aleukæmia ... ..	1	1	2
Diabetes ... ..	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	15	22	37
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	9	19	28
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	4	4	8
Other heart disease ... ..	8	10	18
Other circulatory disease ... ..	—	3	3
Influenza ... ..	2	2	4
Pneumonia ... ..	—	1	1
Bronchitis ... ..	5	1	6
Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	1	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	2	2	4
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ... ..	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	7	4	11
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	—	—	—
All other accidents ... ..	1	3	4
Suicide ... ..	1	1	2
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—	—
	70	92	162

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

	<i>Total cases notified</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Measles ... ..	348	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—
Meningococcal infection ... ..	1	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	32	—
Acute primary pneumonia ... ..	—	—
Acute Influenzal pneumonia ... ..	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—
Food poisoning ... ..	—	—
Tuberculosis (respiratory) ... ..	6	1
„ (non-respiratory) ... ..	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
Membranous croup ... ..	—	—
Enteric and paratyphoid fever ... ..	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum ... ..	—	—
Acute encephalitis ... ..	—	—
Typhus ... ..	—	—
Typhoid fever ... ..	—	—
Small Pox ... ..	—	—
Cholera ... ..	—	—
Malaria ... ..	—	—
Plague ... ..	—	—
	390	1

## KEYNSHAM WELFARE CENTRE

The new building has been greatly appreciated by mothers and by all who work at the Centre. In December 1960, it was decided by the Child Welfare Committee that the 21st anniversary of the formation of the committee should be marked by the presentation to the new Centre of a projector and screen for use in the district. This presentation duly took place in December 1961.

At the Annual General Meeting held in November the Committee heard with regret of the retirement of Sister Pitman who has served the welfare centre faithfully for nearly 20 years.

The attendance figures for the Infant Welfare Centre were as follows:—

January	...	...	226
February	...	...	210
March	...	...	241
April	...	...	226
May	...	...	270
June	...	...	198
July	...	...	203
August	...	Closed	
September	...	...	262
October	...	...	236
November	...	...	259
December	...	...	132 (3 weeks)
			<hr/> 2,463

Attendances for 1960	...	...	...	1,951
Total on the books at the beginning of the year				842
Total on the books at the end of the year	...			789

### **Saltford Welfare Centre:**

January	...	...	166
February	...	...	102
March	...	...	165
April	...	...	108
May	...	...	115
June	...	...	129
July	...	...	135
August	...	...	121
September	...	...	131
October	...	...	88
November	...	...	119
December	...	...	53
			<hr/> 1,432

Attendances for 1960	...	...	...	1,467
Total on books at the beginning of the year	...			241
Total on books at the end of the year	...	...		227

## **KEYNSHAM HEALTH CENTRE,**

As forecast in last year's report County and other health services operated during the year as follows:

### **Child Welfare Clinics:**

Local practitioners attended in turn weekly on Wednesday afternoons when they saw the infants and under five year olds belonging to their own practices.

### **Ante-Natal Clinics:**

On Thursday afternoons ante-natal examinations were carried out by a local general practitioner and a County midwife.

**Welfare Foods:**

These were obtainable at all child welfare sessions and also on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings.

**Mothercraft and Relaxation Classes:**

Classes for mothercraft and relaxation exercises were held on Monday evenings. The parentcraft evening which was held at the end of each seven week session proved a very popular feature.

**Mothers' Club:**

This club met every Monday afternoon. For convenience the Centre was divided off into a playroom and a room for the mothers. Mothers took turns at minding the children each week, usually accompanied by a Health Visitor. Most of the time was devoted to health education and the remainder to such items of interest as cooking demonstration, dressmaking, floral arrangement, etc. The W.V.S. Civil Defence "one in five" talks were given to attentive audiences. A party for the children was held at Christmas.

**Orthopaedic Clinics:**

Orthopaedic clinics were held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month with the orthopaedic sister in attendance. The orthopaedic surgeon attended once in alternate months.

**Immunisation:**

Clinics for immunisation against poliomyelitis and diphtheria were held every four to six weeks.

**Blood Transfusion Unit:**

This service operated at the Centre four times during the year.

**Dental Department:**

The two school dentists centred at the Clinic cover a wide field which embraces most of the Keynsham Urban and Bathavon Rural areas. Clinics were held throughout the year at the Centre and the country schools were visited by a mobile unit. The time table was, of necessity, a variable one, but, in the main, the children in the rural areas were dealt with from April to October, while from November to March and during the school holidays, most of the work was done at the Centre.

**KEYNSHAM DAY NURSERY**

Mild chicken pox at the end of the year affected over 60 per cent. of the children. Apart from this there was little absenteeism because of illness despite the brisk epidemic of measles in the area. The numbers of children on the register rose to thirty-five of which twenty-eight were full time and seven were part time attenders. Thirty were in the age group two to five years, and five under two years. The average daily attendance was twenty-eight.



# REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

There has been little change in the arrangements for the collection and disposal of refuse in the district at any time during the year. Collection is maintained by the use of two vehicles and eight men with two further men employed on salvage and disposal work at the Unity Road tip.

Weekly collections have been maintained from all premises, and apart from unavoidable delays due to weather or mechanical breakdowns, little difficulty has been experienced.

## HOUSING

The year under review saw the completion of the Old Persons' Dwellings and Warden's house at The Hawthorns, a scheme which undoubtedly meets a real need and has given satisfaction to all concerned.

No further Council houses have been erected during the year but the number of private enterprise houses completed was 130.

Clearance of insanitary property has been proceeding steadily and 26 houses included in earlier Clearance Orders have been demolished. In addition 19 other house properties have been closed or demolished to make way for reconstruction, both by the Council and by private concerns.

### Housing Statistics:

1. Total number of dwelling houses in district	...	...	4,714
2. Total number of dwelling houses owned by Council	...	...	1,493
3. New houses completed during the year:			
(a) By Local Authority	...	...	24
(b) By Private Enterprise	...	...	130
4. Houses demolished or closed	...	...	45
5. Summary of action under Housing Acts:			
(a) Houses inspected	...	...	87
(b) Total number of visits	...	...	113
(c) Informal notices issued	...	...	6
(d) Informal notices complied with	...	...	6
(e) Statutory notices issued	...	...	—
(f) Statutory notices complied with	...	...	—

## Housing Act—Improvement Grants:

### (a) Discretionary Grants:

Number of applications and houses dealt with during year:—

<i>Received</i>		<i>Approved</i>	
<i>Applications</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Applications</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>
3	3	3	3

The average approved cost per dwelling ... £465

Total amount of grants payable ... £697

### (b) Standard Grants:

Number of applications (a) received—8, and (b) approved—7.

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

Total number of inspections	...	...	470
Informal notices issued	...	...	2
Informal notices complied with	...	...	2
Infectious diseases	{	Enquiries	13
		Disinfections	2
Enquiries into insect infestation	...	...	34
Shop inspections	...	...	130
Statutory notices issued	...	...	—
Statutory notices complied with	...	...	—

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### (a) Total number of food premises in area 74.

These comprise:	(i) Retail butchers	...	...	...	8
	(ii) Other retail food shops	...	...	...	43
	(iii) Cafes and canteens (including schools)	...	...	...	17
	(iv) Bakehouses	...	...	...	2
	(v) Chocolate manufacture	...	...	...	1
	(vi) Ice-cream manufacture	...	...	...	—
	(vii) Pickle manufacture	...	...	...	1
	(viii) Wholesale warehouse	...	...	...	1
	(ix) Sugar packing	...	...	...	1

### (b) Total number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, 52.

These comprise:	(i) Ice-cream manufacture and sale	...	...	1
	(ii) Ice-cream storage and sale	...	...	42
	(iii) Sausage manufacture	...	...	6
	(iv) Preserved food manufacture	...	...	3

There are no licensed slaughterhouses or knackers' yards within the Urban District.

(c) Total inspections at all types of food premises 126.

Food surrendered as unfit for human consumption:—

Meat and Meat Products	...	...	10 lbs.
Tinned fruit and vegetables	...	...	93 tins
Tinned meat	...	...	31 tins
Tinned milk	...	...	7 tins
Tinned fish	...	...	38 tins
Miscellaneous	...	...	5 tins
Sugar	...	...	16 lbs.
Biscuits	...	...	127 lbs.
Cocoa beans	...	...	15 cwts.

All condemned food was removed for disposal at the refuse tip.

**(d) Milk Supply:**

All milk sold in the area is designated milk and has been maintained at a uniformly satisfactory standard.

(1) Number of registered dairy premises	...	...	...	2
(2) Number of registered distributors	...	...	...	8
(3) Number of inspections at dairies, etc.	...	...	...	8

**(e) Bakehouses:**

The two bakehouses have been periodically inspected and found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

**(f) Food Manufacturing Premises:**

There has been no change in the premises registered under this head during the year. The premises in use have been inspected from time to time and found to be well maintained and operated.

**(g) Ice-cream:**

During the year twenty-one samples of ice-cream from retail premises have been sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Bath. All were found to be Provisional Grade 1.

**(h) Food Hygiene Regulations:**

Twenty-five premises have been visited and no formal action has been necessary. With minor exceptions the standards set by the Regulations have been well maintained. The human element is still the greatest single source of complaint; even so the general standard of hygiene has improved considerably.

## WATER SUPPLY

### Rainfall:

<i>Month</i>	<i>Somerdale Station (Total depth in inches)</i>	<i>Greatest Fall in 24 hours</i>	<i>Date</i>
January	3.47	0.51	1st
February	2.18	0.41	24th
March	0.09	0.08	29th
April	3.64	0.54	25th
May	0.87	0.24	4th
June	0.90	0.80	12th
July	1.77	0.37	14th
August	2.39	0.65	10th
September	1.53	0.46	13th
October	2.31	0.45	22nd
November	1.39	0.41	30th
December	3.74	0.48	1st
<b>TOTAL:</b>	24.28	—	—

The public water supply is provided by Bristol Waterworks and practically all domestic supplies are obtained from the Company mains. The quality and quantity have been quite satisfactory and no restrictions imposed.

Quarterly samples taken for bacteriological examination have all been satisfactory. Chemical analysis indicated that the water is moderately soft and slightly alkaline.

## RODENT CONTROL

Total number of visits of inspection ...	... 1,162
Number of properties found infested ...	... 87
Treatments carried out by operator ...	... 43

In addition to the above all Council properties, including sewers, have been kept under observation and treated as necessary.

No major infestation has been found and no formal action has been necessary to deal with any infestation.

## CARAVAN SITES

The review of caravans and caravan sites under the provision of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 has been completed.

In consequence one site has been approved and licensed without limit of time and three others for short periods to permit the "run-down" of the caravans on them.

## FACTORIES ACT 1937 to 1959

Particulars of the Factories in the area are contained in the following tables. Apart from works of building, civil engineering, etc., these show little change from former years.

No difficulty has been experienced in the administration of the provisions of those Acts for which the Council is responsible.

### APPENDIX

#### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959

##### Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

#### PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	46	20	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	20	25	—	—
TOTAL: ...	67	45	—	—

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ... ..	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL: ...	4	4	—	—	—

## PART VIII OF THE ACT

### OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

No lists of Outworkers received.



# FROME URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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POPULATION	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,490
AREA OF THE DISTRICT	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,194 acres
NUMBER OF HOUSES INHABITED ACCORDING TO THE RATE BOOK	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,680
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.11
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE AS AT 1ST APRIL, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	£565
RATEABLE VALUE AS AT 1ST APRIL, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	£140,675

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<i>Chairman of the Council</i>	...	ARTHUR W. EVEMY, ESQ., J.P.
<i>Chairman of the Public Health Committee</i>	... ..	A. D. FRAMPTON, ESQ., J.P.
<i>Chief Public Health Inspector</i>	...	E. HOSKEN, Cert. S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector, M.R.I.P.H.H., M.A.P.H.I., Honours Diploma Advanced Hygiene.
<i>Additional Public Health Inspector</i>	...	S. R. BAYLIS, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector.

**Municipal Offices, North Parade, Frome.**

*Telephone:* Frome 3231.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

### Live Births:

Number	...	...	...	...	...	...	207
Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.02
Birth Rate corrected by comparability factor (1.09)	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.64
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.83

### Still Births:

Number	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	23.58
Total Live and Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	212
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

### Infant Mortality Rates:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.32
Legitimate „ „ legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.30
Illegitimate „ „ illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.49
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.66
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	33.02

### Maternal Mortality (including abortion):

Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
General death rate per 1,000 estimated average population	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.58
General death rate corrected by comparability factor (0.76)	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.84

## DEATHS

The number of deaths, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 179, ninety-three male and eighty-six female. The following Table indicates the cause of death:—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	1	—	1
Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping cough ... ..	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	1	—	1
Measles ... ..	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	2	2	4
"    "    lung, bronchus ... ..	5	1	6
"    "    breast ... ..	—	2	2
"    "    uterus ... ..	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	7	8	15
Leukæmia, aleukæmia ... ..	1	—	1
Diabetes ... ..	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	8	15	23
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	18	15	33
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	—	2	2
Other heart disease ... ..	15	13	28
Other circulatory disease ... ..	6	3	9
Influenza ... ..	—	2	2
Pneumonia ... ..	7	5	12
Bronchitis ... ..	4	1	5
Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	—	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	—	2	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	2	—	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ... ..	1	1	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases ... ..	9	6	15
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	1	1	2
All other accidents ... ..	3	1	4
Suicide ... ..	—	3	3
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—	—
	93	86	179

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

	<i>Total cases notified</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Measles ... ..	287	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	2	—
Meningococcal infection ... ..	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	3	—
Acute primary pneumonia ... ..	2	1
Acute influenzal pneumonia ... ..	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	4	1
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—
Food poisoning ... ..	—	—
Tuberculosis (respiratory) ... ..	13	1
(non-respiratory) ... ..	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
Membranous croup ... ..	—	—
Enteric and paratyphoid fever ... ..	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum ... ..	—	—
Acute encephalitis ... ..	—	—
Typhus ... ..	—	—
Typhoid fever ... ..	—	—
Small pox ... ..	—	—
Cholera ... ..	—	—
Malaria ... ..	—	—
Plague ... ..	—	—
	312	3

## FROME WELFARE CENTRE

A satisfactory year's work is reported from the Frome Welfare Centre. Last year's increased attendance figures were maintained until the end of November but the last month of the year showed a reduction compared with the same month last year due, no doubt, to the vagaries of the weather.

A notable event during the year was the presentation of a cheque to Mrs. Grindrod to mark her retirement after over twelve years' devoted service as Health Visitor to the area.

Attendance figures were as follow:—

January	...	...	212
February	...	...	224
March	...	...	248
April	...	...	285
May	...	...	294
June	...	...	310
July	...	...	262
August	...	...	225
September	...	...	341
October	...	...	215
November	...	...	247
December	...	...	175
			<hr/>
			3,038

Attendances for 1960 

---

 3,130

Total on the books at the beginning of the year 379  
Total on the books at the end of the year 433

Other services operating at the Centre were as follows:—

MONDAY	Orthodontist. Parentcraft. These classes continued to be popular and sessions of seven week duration were held continously throughout the year. Mothers interested in preparation for childbirth came in from surrounding areas such as Beckington, Norton St. Philip, Nunney, etc.
TUESDAY	Oculist. Child Guidance (3rd and 5th). Orthopædic Surgeon (4th). Welfare Foods (p.m.)
WEDNESDAY	Speech Therapist. Chest Clinic (2nd). The Chest Clinic was held only once per month on the second Wednesday instead of the second and fourth Wednesdays as formerly. Dental Clinics. The times of these clinics were altered to Wednesdays all day 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and 1.45 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Wednesday and Friday 5.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Welfare Foods (p.m.)
THURSDAY	Orthopædic Sister.
FRIDAY	School Children's Clinic (a.m.) Infant Welfare Clinic (p.m.) The Infant Welfare Clinic was taken over by Dr. Fawssett in September and was held on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at 2 p.m. Dentist (5.30 — 7.30). Welfare Foods (p.m.)

Blood transfusion sessions were held twice a year (June and October). Mrs. Lee of Holmwood Lodge, Welshmill, organised the times and Red Cross workers gave valuable assistance.

Quarterly meetings of the Health Visitors in this group took place during the year at which topics of current interest were discussed. These were held under the leadership of Miss Murphy and Mrs. Grindrod.

## REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

### Housing:

The number of applicants on the Council's Housing List is now one hundred and twenty-one. During the year forty-four Council Houses were erected. Thirty-seven were also built by private enterprise builders. There were eighteen houses in course of erection at the end of the year by private builders and thirty-eight Local Authority houses.

The number of houses demolished or closed under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957—thirty-one. The number of houses made fit during the year—thirty.

Work has commenced at the new Mount Housing Site and it is hoped that houses will be available for letting by mid-1962. The redevelopment of the Trinity Area No. 1 is being dealt with by the Architect engaged by the Council.

### PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

During the year the following numbers of visits were made:—

Public Health Inspections including Meat and Food Inspections	1,622
Housing      ...      ...      ...      ...      ...      ...      ...	1,062
Total number of visits of all kinds      ...      ...      ...      ...	4,407

### Common Lodging Houses:

One Common Lodging House was closed in November. This was in the Trinity No. 1 Redevelopment Area and the other one is in an area not yet confirmed, but it adjoins the present confirmed area so that this Lodging House will probably not continue for many more years. It is, however, kept in a satisfactory condition.

### Rodent Control:

In addition to treatments at private and business premises, the Operator now has a regular round of inspections and treatment where necessary at Hospitals and School canteens. He regularly visits Asham Quarry by agreement. During the year, 1,723 visits have been made including two complete sewer treatments of the district.



## MILK SUPPLY, INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Number of registered distributors of milk	...	...	...	4
Number of registered dairy premises other than farms	...	...	...	2

Registration of these premises is now carried out by the Somerset County Council.

During the year sixty-five samples of Designated Milk were taken for bacteriological examination and all were satisfactory.

### Ice-Cream:

There are fifty-nine registered premises in the district. During the year nineteen samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Bath and all were in Grade 1.

### Slaughterhouses Act 1958:

A stunning pen has been installed at the Slaughterhouse to comply with the requirements of the Act. It is proving very satisfactory in use, and results in easier operation of the slaughtering process and more humane killing.

## MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during the year:—

	<i>Cattle Excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed ... ..	739	97	96	1,300	4,388
Number inspected ... ..	Same	as number killed			
<b>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</b>					
Whole carcases condemned	4	7	21	17	32
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	49	11	1	26	135
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	7.17%	18%	23%	3.3%	3.8%
<b>Tuberculosis Only:</b>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	64
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	1.5%
<b>Cysticercosis:</b>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Weight of Meat Condemned:</b> (in lbs) for:—					
(a) Tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	820
(b) Cysticercosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Other ... ..	2,169	3,166	843	914	4,615
Total (in lbs) condemned	2,169	3,166	843	914	5,435

**Food Hygiene Regulations 1960:**

During the year fifty-four premises were visited including fifteen joint visits under the Shops Act 1950. In two cases informal action has resulted in the complete modernisation of the Shops concerned. Informal notices were served on four occupiers of shops to provide washing facilities. In each case these have been provided.

**Water Supply:**

During the year one hundred and twenty-six samples were taken including eighty-nine direct from the wells and there was some evidence of contamination in a number of these. The chlorinated samples taken from the supply mains were, however, all satisfactory.

**Other Food Inspections:**

				<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
Canned Meat	...	...	...	112	8
Canned Fruit	...	...	...	44	2
Canned Tomatoes	...	...	...	4	12
Canned Peas ...	...	...	...	9	14
Canned Soup	...	...	...		10
Corned Beef ...	...	...	...	66	
Bacon	...	...	...	263	
Fish Cakes	...	...	...	14	
Marmalade	...	...	...	2	
Assorted Mallows	...	...	...	100	
Canned Milk	...	...	...	2	pts.

**Factories Act 1937 and 1959:**

There were eighty-three factories on the Council's Register as at 31st December, 1961. Visits were made to thirty-eight factories. No Statutory action was necessary.

## APPENDIX

### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959

#### Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

#### PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>  (1)	<i>Number on Register</i>  (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	3	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	76	30	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	5	4	—	—
TOTAL: ...	82	37	1	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

<i>Particulars</i>  (1)	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i> (6)
	<i>Found</i> (2)	<i>Remedied</i> (3)	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i> (4)	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i> (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—

<i>Particulars</i>  (1)	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i> (6)
	<i>Found</i> (2)	<i>Remedied</i> (3)	<i>To H.M. Inspector</i> (4)	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i> (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	—	—	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL: ...	—	1	—	1	—

## PART VIII OF THE ACT

### OUTWORK

(SECTIONS 110 AND 111)

<i>Nature of Work</i>  (1)	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)</i> (2)	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i> (3)	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i> (4)	<i>No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises</i> (5)	<i>Notices served</i> (6)	<i>Prosecutions</i> (7)
Wearing } Making apparel } etc. ...	25	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL: ...	25	—	—	—	—	—

## FROME RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

---

POPULATION ESTIMATED MID-YEAR, 1961	...	...	10,857
AREA OF THE DISTRICT	...	...	51,933 acres
NUMBER OF HOUSES INHABITED ACCORDING TO RATE BOOKS	...	...	3,603
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE	...	...	3.013
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	...	...	£360
RATEABLE VALUE AT 1ST APRIL, 1961	...	...	£87,073

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<i>Chairman of the Council</i>	...	CAPTAIN N. H. CREES
<i>Chairman of the General Purposes Committee</i>	...	CAPTAIN N. H. CREES
<i>Chief Public Health Inspector</i>	...	C. H. PROSSER, Cert. S.I.B.
<i>Additional Public Health Inspector</i>	...      ...      ...	J. Y. ANDERSON, M.A.R.S.A. (Scotland)

**Public Offices, Frome.**

*Telephone:* FROME 2625, 2184 and 3269.



## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

### Live Births:

Number ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	163
Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.95
Birth Rate corrected by comparability factor (1.07)	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.00
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.29

### Still Births:

Number ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.12
Total Live and Still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	165
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

### Infant Mortality Rates:

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	30.67
Legitimate „ „ legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	32.05
Illegitimate „ „ illegitimate „ „	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.40
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.27
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	24.24

### Maternal Mortality (including abortion):

Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
General death rate per 1,000 estimated average population	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.47
General death rate corrected by comparability factor (0.94)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.78

## DEATHS

The number of deaths adjusted for inward and outward transfers, total 125, sixty-four male and sixty-one female. The following Table indicates the cause of death:—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	1	1
Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	2	—	2
„ lung, bronchus ... ..	5	—	5
„ breast ... ..	1	2	3
„ uterus ... ..	—	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	4	12
Leukæmia, aleukæmia ... ..	—	—	—
Diabetes ... ..	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	6	10	16
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	12	6	18
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	2	2	4
Other heart disease ... ..	7	13	20
Other circulatory disease ... ..	1	6	7
Influenza ... ..	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	2	5	7
Bronchitis ... ..	5	2	7
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	4	—	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	1	—	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ... ..	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	2	6	8
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	2	—	2
All other accidents ... ..	1	2	3
Suicide ... ..	—	—	—
Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—	—
	64	61	125

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total cases notified</i>	<i>Total deaths</i>
Measles ... ..	192	—
Scarlet fever ... ..	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—
Meningococcal infection ... ..	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	—
Whooping cough ... ..	45	1
Acute primary pneumonia ... ..	6	2
Acute influenzal pneumonia ... ..	2	—
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—
Food poisoning ... ..	—	—
Tuberculosis (respiratory) ... ..	6	1
„ (non respiratory) ... ..	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
Membranous croup ... ..	—	—
Enteric and paratyphoid fever ... ..	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum ... ..	—	—
Acute encephalitis ... ..	—	—
Typhus ... ..	—	—
Typhoid fever ... ..	—	—
Small pox ... ..	—	—
Cholera ... ..	—	—
Malaria ... ..	—	—
Plague ... ..	—	—
	254	4

## REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

### Water Supplies:

All public water supplies were sampled for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis.

During the year it was found that the Gaer Hill water was plumbo-solvent. The County Analyst's report showed that the lead content varied from nil to 1.0 ppm and a treatment plant was ordered from the Candy Filter Company. This was installed in the late summer. The water is now being treated by adding caustic soda and further samples show it to be satisfactory.

<i>Raw Water</i>				<i>Treated Before Going Into Supply</i>			
<i>Bacteriological</i>		<i>Chemical</i>		<i>Bacteriological</i>		<i>Chemical</i>	
<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
6	7	10	1	25	3	10	Nil

Number of properties within the district supplied by mains water is:—

	<i>Direct to the Houses</i>			<i>By Means of Standpipes</i>		
	<i>Public</i>	<i>Water Coy's</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Public</i>	<i>Water Coy's</i>	<i>Private</i>
Number of Dwellings ...	2,789	Nil	403	18	Nil	8
Population ... ..	9,290	Nil	1,570	81	Nil	35

## PUBLIC SUPPLIES

### (a) Norton St. Philip:

This source of supply remains very constant with a minimum yield of 70,000 gallons per day.

### (b) North East Area:

The supply to this area, which is obtained from the West Wilts Water Board, was satisfactory, but difficulties were experienced during the year in supplying one or two properties in the Standerwick area.

### (c) Gaer Hill:

Owing to increased consumption in Nunney and Trudoxhill it became necessary to augment this supply by taking water from the Wanstrow Extension. The amount required from the Wanstrow Extension appeared to increase as the year went by and it is quite definite that had not the Wanstrow-Nunney Extension been carried out, the village of Nunney would have experienced a very considerable shortage of water.

### (d) West Regional Stage II:

In this area it was again evident that the consumption of water was increasing rapidly and it appeared that the 180,000 gallons per day, which was allowed for in this Scheme, was hardly sufficient. This was due to the partial failure of the Whiteholes Springs Supply which feeds the parish of Coleford and in order to augment this supply, water had to be taken from the Tadhil Reservoir.

**(e) Private Supplies:**

Witham Friary, Berkley, Great Elm and the hamlets of Hardington, Hemington and Charlton rely on privately owned supplies. Berkley and Witham Friary supplies were satisfactory, but the remaining areas were unsatisfactory both as regards quantity and quality.

**SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

Five parishes within the Rural District have public sewers and modern treatment plants.

It is encouraging to record that work on the drainage and disposal scheme for Norton St. Philip has commenced and I anticipate it will be completed by the middle of 1962, at which time it is hoped the Nunney scheme will be well under way.

**REFUSE COLLECTION**

A fortnightly collection of household refuse was carried out throughout the area except in the parish of Coleford and part of the parish of Selwood where the collection was weekly.

Due to difficulties with the Contractor, the Council took over the collection of household refuse some time before the end of the contract period and this led to initial difficulty in collections until the men became familiar with the round. In addition, labour proved to be a problem and it was not until the end of the year that a settled crew could be depended upon. Complaints received now are infrequent and it can be said that an efficient and greatly improved service has been provided.

All refuse is now tipped at a private dump just outside the district at Asham Wood, though this entails longer journeys from the various parishes.

**HOUSING**

	<i>Houses Erected During Year</i>		<i>Houses in Course of Erection</i>	
	<i>For Slum Clearance</i>	<i>For Other Purposes</i>	<i>For Slum Clearance</i>	<i>For Other Purposes</i>
Local Authority	40	Nil	6	Nil
Private Enterprise	Nil	26	Nil	28

<i>Number of Post-War Houses erected from 1st April 1945, to 31st December, 1961</i>		<i>Housing Programme for 1962</i>	
<i>By Local Authority</i>	<i>By Private Enterprise</i>	<i>For Slum Clearance</i>	<i>For other Purposes</i>
432	244	Not fixed	Not fixed



During the year thirty-three houses were demolished or closed under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

A comprehensive survey of property with a rateable value of under £16 was virtually completed during the year and action is pending on approximately one hundred further houses. It is felt that this action coupled with an increasing use of Improvement Grants will show a considerable improvement in the general housing standard in the district. It is unfortunate that many tenants of these substandard houses were too old or infirm to move to a modern house or bungalow and must be allowed to remain in occupation of what are, very often, completely inadequate cottages, but the question of mental or physical distress must weigh heavily against any enforced move.

### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

#### (1) Discretionary:

The general housing standard in the district continues to be improved as owners take advantage of the benefits of the Grant. An increase in applications was noted over the previous year and these were dealt with as follows:

(1) <i>Received</i>		(2) <i>Approved</i>	
<i>Applications</i>	<i>No. of Dwellings</i>	<i>Applications</i>	<i>No. of Dwellings</i>
63	63	60	60

Of this number thirty-one were owner/occupiers.

The average cost per dwelling, taking into account expenditure involving only fifty-one approved applications during the year was £911 8s. 9d. and the average grant paid by the Local Authority was £366.

#### (2) Standard:

During the year fourteen applications were received from owners under the above and all were approved. The total number of houses where Standard Amenities were provided was sixteen. These figures are lower than those of the previous year and I feel that this is entirely due to owners taking the additional advantages of the Discretionary Grant.

### MILK

There were twenty-two registered distributors within the area.

### ICE-CREAM

There were twenty-seven premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the retailing of ice-cream. Pre-packed ice-cream only was sold from these premises and storage was by refrigerated containers supplied by the manufacturer.



## **FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960**

During the year the following action has been taken under the above regulations:—

Number of Premises inspected	...	...	...	35
„ Notices served	...	...	...	18

The Notices were served as a result of minor infringements and each has been complied with.

### **MOBILE VEHICLES**

Some twenty-eight vehicles were inspected during the year and twenty-one informal notices served, dealing mainly with minor infringements. These were all complied with. Mobile traders of this type require constant supervision. Although they perform a valuable service to rural life, it would appear that stricter and more comprehensive legislation is required to enable inspectors to enforce a standard more nearly approaching that reached in the shop. At the moment the balance is heavily weighed in favour of the mobile trader with no set hours or even districts, and inspections are necessarily carried out as and when the opportunity arises. It is fair to assume that an unknown number of such vehicles escape inspection for many months on end and, as many of the vehicles are unsuitable for the purpose of trading, a very low standard of hygiene results. I feel that all such vehicles should be specially licensed before being allowed to trade, and as I have said, subject to stricter legislation.

### **KNACKER'S YARD**

There is one Knacker's Yard in the area, maintained in a satisfactory condition. Regular inspections were carried out during the year.

### **FACTORIES**

All factories in the area have been regularly inspected and no official action was necessary to remedy the minor defects found.

### **PEST DESTRUCTION**

Public sewers were regularly disinfested throughout the year, but it was noted that such action was not as a cure but as a preventative, there being little evidence of any infestation. Domestic premises were treated as required following any complaint.

## **CARAVANS**

The Council have issued licences to two small sites and have several under consideration, including two sites capable of taking thirty caravans between them. Conditions attached to site licences follow the Ministry's recommendations as far as was considered reasonable and practicable.

## **INDUSTRIES**

The commercial life of the district is principally centred around the following industries:—

Agriculture  
Engineering

Quarrying  
Milk Products

## APPENDIX

### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959

#### Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

#### PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>  (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	26	25	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL: ...	26	25	—	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

<i>Particulars</i>  (1)	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i> (6)
	<i>Found</i> (2)	<i>Remedied</i> (3)	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i> (4)	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i> (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—

<i>Particulars</i>  (1)	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i> (6)
	<i>Found</i> (2)	<i>Remedied</i> (3)	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i> (4)	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i> (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	3	3	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL: ...	3	3	—	—	—

## PART VIII OF THE ACT

### OUTWORK

#### (SECTIONS 110 AND 111)

<i>Nature of Work</i>  (1)	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)</i> (2)	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i> (3)	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i> (4)	<i>No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises</i> (5)	<i>Notices served</i> (6)	<i>Prosecutions</i> (7)
Wearing } Making apparel } etc. ...	35	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL: ...	35	—	—	—	—	—



